

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Before Commissioners:

Robert G. Taub, Acting Chairman;
Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman;
Mark Acton;
Ruth Y. Goldway; and
Nanci E. Langley

Yantic Post Office
Yantic, Connecticut

Docket No. A2015-1

NOTICE AND ORDER ACCEPTING APPEAL AND
ESTABLISHING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

(Issued March 16, 2015)

Notice is hereby given that, on March 13, 2015, the Commission posted on its website an appeal of the Postal Service's closure of the Yantic Post Office in Yantic, Connecticut.¹

The Commission hereby institutes a proceeding under 39 U.S.C. § 404(d)(5) and establishes Docket No. A2015-1 to consider the appeal of the closure of the Yantic Post Office. Petitioner may further explain her position with supplemental information or facts. Petitioner may file a Participant Statement on PRC Form 61 or a brief with the Commission no later than April 16, 2015.

¹ See letter to the Commission dated and postmarked February 17, 2015, and signed by Debercy A. Hinchey, Mayor of the City of Norwich (Petitioner), Connecticut and State Representative Kevin Ryan stating that they wish to appeal the decision to permanently close the Yantic Post Office (Petition). Petitioner also states that over the years, she has been served by the Yantic Post Office. See letter to the Commission dated March 6, 2015, and signed by Petitioner March 6, 2015.

Categories of issues apparently raised. Petitioner contends that the Postal Service has decided to permanently close the Yantic Post Office. Petitioner states the Yantic Post Office has served the people of Yantic, the surrounding area, as well as the Norwich Business Park. Up to this point, the closure has been temporary and has left a gap in postal services utilized by the Business Park and residents. Petitioner states the Yantic Post Office was a dominant and integral part of the fabric of the Yantic Village.

After the Postal Service files the Administrative Record and the Commission reviews it, the Commission may find that there are more issues than those set forth above, or that the Postal Service's determination disposes of one or more of those issues. The deadline for the Postal Service to file the applicable Administrative Record with the Commission is March 23, 2015. See 39 C.F.R. § 3025.21.

Availability; website posting. The Commission has posted the appeal and supporting material on its website at <http://www.prc.gov>. Additional filings in this case and participants' submissions will also be posted on the website, if provided in electronic format or amenable to conversion, and not subject to a valid protective order. Information on how to use the Commission's website is available online or by contacting the Commission's webmaster via telephone at 202-789-6873 or via electronic mail at prc-webmaster@prc.gov.

The appeal and all related documents are also available for public inspection in the Commission's docket section. Docket section hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, except on Federal government holidays. Docket section personnel may be contacted via electronic mail at prc-dockets@prc.gov or via telephone at 202-789-6846.

Filing of documents. All Postal Service filings in this case shall be made using the Internet (Filing Online) pursuant to Commission rules 9(a) and 10(a). See 39 C.F.R. §§ 3001.9(a) and 3001.10(a). Other participants may also use Filing Online. Instructions for obtaining an account to file documents online may be obtained on the Commission's website, <http://www.prc.gov>, or by contacting the Commission's docket section at prc-dockets@prc.gov or via telephone at 202-789-6846.

The Commission reserves the right to redact personal information that may infringe on an individual's privacy rights from documents filed in this proceeding.

Participation by others. Persons other than the Petitioner and the Postal Service wishing to be heard in this matter may submit comments. See 39 C.F.R. § 3025.14. Initial comments supporting a remand of this case are to be filed on or before April 16, 2015. This and other deadlines are set out in the attached Procedural Schedule. See 39 C.F.R. §§ 3025.41 through 3025.43.

Further procedures. By statute, the Commission is required to issue its decision within 120 days from the date it receives the appeal. See 39 U.S.C. § 404(d)(5). A Procedural Schedule has been developed to accommodate this statutory deadline. In the interest of expedition, the Commission may request the Postal Service or other participants to submit information or memoranda of law on any appropriate issue. **If any motions are filed by the Postal Service, responses are due 10 days after any such motion is filed.** See 39 C.F.R. § 3025.2(c).

It is ordered:

1. The Postal Service shall file the applicable Administrative Record regarding this appeal no later than March 23, 2015.
2. The attached Procedural Schedule is hereby adopted.
3. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. § 505, Elisabeth S. Shellan is designated as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public.

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove
Secretary

PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

February 17, 2015	Filing of Appeal
March 23, 2015	Deadline for the Postal Service to file the applicable Administrative Record in this appeal
April 16, 2015	Deadline for Petitioner's Form 61 or initial brief or other participant statement in support of the petition (see 39 C.F.R. § 3025.41)
April 30, 2015	Deadline for statement or answering brief of Postal Service or any other participant statement in support of the Postal Service (see 39 C.F.R. § 3025.42)
May 11, 2015	Deadline for replies in response to answering statements or brief (see 39 C.F.R. § 3025.43)
May 18, 2015	Expiration of the Commission's 120-day decisional schedule (see 39 U.S.C. § 404(d)(5))